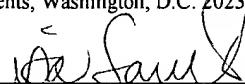


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Richard O. Ruhr et al. Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No.: 09/965,744 Group Art Unit: 1751  
Filed: Sept. 28, 2001 Docket: 00163.1250US01  
Title: Alkaline Metal Cleaner

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Box Disclosure Documents, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 28, 2001.

By:   
Lisa A. Samuels

Box Disclosure Documents  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

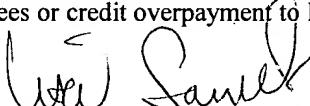
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing  
 Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 6 Reference(s)  
 Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD LLC  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
404.954.5100

By:   
Name: Lisa A. Samuels  
Reg. No.: 43,080  
LA Samuels





S/N 09/965,744

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Richard O. Ruhr et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No.:	09/965,744	Group Art Unit:	1751
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Box Disclosure Documents  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

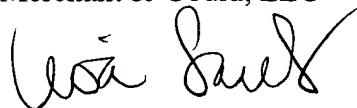
No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account  
No. 41-1975651.

Respectfully submitted,  
Merchant & Gould, LLC



Lisa A. Samuels  
Reg. No. 43,080

Merchant & Gould P.C.  
3200 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-2215

